

VIA: ATR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

L ATCH NO. SGAA-13850

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION

29 JAN 1955

TO : Chief, SE

DATE: _____

Attn: ☒
FROM : ☐

SUBJECT: GENERAL— OBHUNT/FRIDAY

SPECIFIC— OBHUNT Analysis of FRIDAY Mission

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

REF: a. SGAA 13562, 12 January 1955
b. SGAA 13519, 10 January 1955
c. SGAA 13721, 21 January 1955

Action Requested: Headquarters' concurrence in recommendation to continue
FRIDAY Mission.

Synopsis:

1. We believe RMDOLLAR to be sincere in the execution of this mission.
2. We believe the explanation of our failure to date can most probably be found in AIPIGEON's role.
3. We recommend another attempt to contact AIPIGEON.

Analysis:

1. Through careful debriefing and cross interrogation of RMDOLLAR and AIRBLOWN, we have established to our satisfaction that the account of the December penetration which we received from the team is substantially accurate. Accepting the premise that the team went to the prearranged dead drop location and found nothing, we are confronted with the question: why? The following possible answers have occurred to us:

- a. AIPIGEON misunderstood the dead drop mechanics and/or the exact location of the drop.
- b. RMDOLLAR and AIPIGEON set up the 25 May 1955 rendezvous as a substitute for the dead drop.
- c. Per para 6 of reference a, AIPIGEON is not operating effectively because:

1. He changed his mind about working after RMDOLLAR left the scene.
2. RMDOLLAR was rebuffed by him and lied to us about it.

Removed from Project *Obsidian*
CS Classification: *None*
JOB # 63-69718
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3. He was interned or killed after his recruitment.
4. He has purposely disobeyed or failed to execute parts of his briefing with or without the knowledge of RNDOLLAR.

d. The dead drop container may have been discovered by a local resident.

2. With reference to a. above, we attempted to establish RNDOLLAR's understanding of the dead drop procedure in questions 14-19 of enclosure 1 to reference c. It seems that RNDOLLAR has confused the significance of "safety" as opposed to "danger" with presence or absence of the can. We can assume that these niceties were passed on to AIPIGEON in a somewhat garbled form as well. This confusion is of secondary importance, however, because RNDOLLAR was briefed to go to the dead drop regardless of the signal. We accept RNDOLLAR's statement that he briefed his brother on the use of the dead drop and that he and his brother selected the location for it together. We further accept his statement that he gave his brother a written briefing on the subject. We therefore feel that it is improbable that the can was not found because of a misunderstanding on the part of AIPIGEON as to the purpose of the dead drop. It is more likely that confusion arose over the exact location for the drop.

3. Possibility b. is not a much more probable answer to our problem. It should be noted, however, that the only two significant questions to which RNDOLLAR reacted unfavorably in his LCFLUTTER concern this possibility. The first was: "Did your brother agree to place the can at the designated place?" The other was: "Did you agree with your brother that you will not use the dead drop until May?" RNDOLLAR is adamant on these points. That he went in for the express purpose of servicing the drop in December certainly gives him a strong case. We find it very hard to believe that this agent would have made the penetration if he knew he would find nothing.

4. As for the possibilities mentioned in para 6 of reference a, we feel that the first is the most likely: that AIPIGEON either lost heart after RNDOLLAR left the scene or that he accepted the job having no intention of pursuing it.

5. The second possibility, in para 6 of reference a, i.e. that RNDOLLAR lied about successfully recruiting his brother, seems highly improbable. In the first place, AIRBRED was witness to both July meetings. AIRBRED is not clever enough to deceive us in a thorough and separate debriefing such as the one he received. In the second place, if AIPIGEON had refused to work, he would have had little reason to make the second rendezvous. In the third place, RNDOLLAR would not have accepted the third penetration if he knew it would be fruitless unless, for the honor of the family, he went alone, hid somewhere in relative safety and returned after the requisite number of hours. But it was RNDOLLAR

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that insisted on the second man thereby rendering such a deception impossible. Fourthly, for what it is worth, RNDOLLAR reacted favorably to the question: "Did your brother really agree to work" during his LOFLUTTER test.

6. The third possibility expressed in reference a, that AIPIGEON may have been jailed or killed, is certainly valid. We doubt, however, that he could have been picked up expressly for complicity in FRIDAY Mission. If this had been the case, we feel that the can would certainly have been in place for us; or at least that our boys would have been received at the dead drop.

7. As for the fourth point listed in reference a, we concede the possibility of RNDOLLAR's suggestion that the can could have been retrieved by AIPIGEON for security reasons.

8. With reference to sub paragraph 1d above, it is also certainly possible that a resident of the area found the can by chance and carried off his prize.

Conclusion:

9. We conclude that RNDOLLAR is not responsible for the absence of the container at the dead drop, that he has given us a reasonably accurate account of his efforts to date and that he is sincere in his desire to make these efforts succeed.

We concede the possibility that our failure to date is not directly attributable to AIPIGEON either. The container could have been carried off by a third party or AIPIGEON could have been captured or killed.

We believe it most probable, however, that the solution to the problem of the missing can lies with AIPIGEON alone; that he is either unwilling or confused. Although RNDOLLAR is far from sanguine about the prospect of another venture, he is willing to attempt it. This fact strongly supports his sincerity. He is confident that his brother will produce if he is still in place and adequate communications can be established.

Recommendation:

10. It is our recommendation that RNDOLLAR and AIBLOWM be recommitted during the summer of 1955 with the mission of contacting AIPIGEON, determining his position and establishing effective communications with him if he is willing and able to perform on our behalf. The time and expense involved in executing this recommendation will be relatively minor. Risk is known to be surmountable. The agents are well trained, competent and confident of success.

BA RAW
ELA/DEN/BAH/RBO/JLK/nkr
24 January 1955

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